REMARKS

The amended abstract is now less than 150 words.

The missing serial number of the related application has now been amended in the specification.

The Examiner has objected to claims 2, 3, 11, and 12 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2 and 11 have been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the original base claim. Claims 2, 3, 11, and 12 are now in allowable form.

Applicants acknowledges that claims 6, 9, and 14-20 are allowed.

Formal drawings have been submitted.

It is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Lewis L. Nunnelley. (#42,942)

Patent Agent

Telephone No. 408-717-6570

Hitachi Global Storage

Technologies

Intellectual Property Law 5600 Cottle Road (NHGB/014-2)

S/N: 09/874,673

San Jose, CA 95193